

# Record Specifications



The PNSS transaction (data) file that contributors submit to CDC on a quarterly or annual basis is comprised of multiple records, which in turn are comprised of multiple data fields. Each record contains information about an individual woman. This *PNSS User's Guide* section describes PNSS field and record types, minimum field requirements for PNSS participation, as well as PNSS record specifications, i.e. the position of fields on the PNSS record.

## PNSS Field Types

**Critical Fields:** Fields that must be reported and that will result in records being rejected if they are missing or invalid (mis-coded).

**Core Fields:** Fields that are considered extremely important for maternal and child monitoring. If missing, they will not affect record acceptance by CDC, but they will result in exclusion from some or all national and state PNSS tables.

**Supplemental Fields:** Fields that are considered important for maternal and child nutrition monitoring and which states are encouraged to submit. If missing they will not affect record acceptance by CDC, but they will result in exclusion from some national and state PNSS tables.

**Contributor Use Fields:** Fields that are unique to and defined by the individual PNSS Contributor (i.e., state, U.S. territory, or tribal government) after consultation with CDC.

## Minimum Field Requirements for PNSS Participation

The minimal or vital fields that must be reported in order for CDC to process PNSS records and generate state tables include State, Substate, Prenatal Visit Date, Postpartum Visit Date, Woman's Alphanumeric ID, and Completion Code. *Plus at least one of the following three themes of health indicators must be reported:*

- **Birth Outcome Theme:** Date of Last Menstrual Period (LMP) or Expected Date of Delivery (EDD), Infant's Date of Birth, and Infant's Birthweight—English or Metric
- **Anthropometry Theme:** Pre-Pregnancy Weight, Woman's Height—English or Metric, and Total Weight Gain
- **Hematology Theme:** Hemoglobin or Hematocrit—Prenatal Visit and Hemoglobin or Hematocrit—Postpartum Visit

## PNSS Record Types

**Complete Records:** Records containing prenatal and postpartum data about a woman that are recorded both during and after her pregnancy. Postpartum data includes data about the newborn infant.

**Prenatal Only Records:** Records containing only prenatal data about a woman.

**Postpartum Only Records:** Records containing only postpartum data about a woman and her infant.

The type of PNSS record is designated in PNSS field 6, Completion Code.

Completion Code 1, A or B	=	Complete Records
Completion Code 2–6	=	Prenatal Only Records
Completion Code 7–8	=	Postpartum Only Records

## PNSS Record Specifications

This layout specifies the data field positions on the PNSS record and *partially* explains the field codes (see the next *PNSS User's Guide* section, "Field Definitions, Codes, and Edits" for complete explanations).

When fields are provided for both metric and English measurements, only one measurement is needed; the other field should be left blank. The same is true for hemoglobin and hematocrit measurements; only one is needed. Any field that is never reported by your state, territory, or tribal government (hereafter referred to as "contributor") may also be left blank.

Field Seq	Size	Columns or Positions	Field Name	Type <sup>1</sup>	Field Priority <sup>2</sup>	Record Types <sup>3</sup>	Notes
<b>RECORD DESCRIPTORS</b>							
1	2	1–2	State	A/N	Cr	C,P,PP	State abbreviations
2	1	3	Substate	A/N	Cr	C,P,PP	Assigned by Contributor and CDC
3	9	4–12	Clinic	A/N	C	C,P,PP	Assigned by Contributor
4	5	13–17	Zip Code	N	S	C,P,PP	Five digit Post Office zip code of woman's residence
5	1	18	Source of Data	N	C	C,P,PP	See Field Codes
6	1	19	Completion Code	A/N	Cr	C,P,PP	See Field Codes
<b>MATERNAL DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS</b>							
7	8	20–27	Initial Visit Date	N	Cr	C,P,PP	Actual date: MMDDYYYY
8	8	28–35	Postpartum Visit Date	N	C	C, PP	Actual date: MMDDYYYY
9	60	36–95	Alphanumeric ID— Woman	A/N	Cr	C,P,PP	Consistently right or left justify; pad entries < 30 characters with blanks. Leave the last 30 positions blank. Encrypt full SSN and client name using CDC software.
10	8	96–103	Woman's Date of Birth	N	C	C,P,PP	Actual date: MMDDYYYY
11	6	104–109	Race/Ethnicity <i>or</i>	N	C	C,P,PP	See Field Codes
12	3	110–112	WIC Race/Ethnicity	N	C	C,P,PP	See Field Codes

<sup>1</sup> A/N = Alphanumeric; N = Numeric.

<sup>2</sup> Cr = Critical field (record rejected if not reported); C = Core field; S = Supplemental field; CU = Contributor Use field.

<sup>3</sup> Report this field on the specified PNSS record types. C = Complete records; P = Prenatal only records; PP = Postpartum only records.

Field Seq	Size	Columns or Positions	Field Name	Type <sup>1</sup>	Field Priority <sup>2</sup>	Record Types <sup>3</sup>	Notes
<b>MATERNAL DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS (CONT.)</b>							
13	2	113–114	Contributor-Specific Race/Ethnicity	N	S	C,P,PP	See Field Codes
14	2	115–116	Education	N	C	C,P,PP	Number of grades completed Blanks or 99 = Unknown
15	2	117–118	Household Size—Prenatal Visit	N	C	C,P	Number in household Blanks or 99 = Unknown
16	4	119–122	Monthly Household Income—Prenatal Visit	N	C	C,P	0000–8000 actual \$ 8888 = Adjunctively eligible 9999 = Unknown
17	1	123	Migrant Status	N	S	C,P,PP	1 = Migrant 2 = Non-Migrant Blank or 9=Unknown
<b>MATERNAL PROGRAM PARTICIPATION</b>							
18	1	124	WIC—Prenatal Visit	N	S	C,P	1 = Yes 2 = No Blank or 9 = Unknown
19	1	125	WIC—Postpartum Visit	N	S	C,PP	1 = Yes 2 = No Blank or 9 = Unknown
20	1	126	Food Stamps—Prenatal Visit	N	S	C,P	1 = Yes 2 = No Blank or 9 = Unknown
21	1	127	Food Stamps—Postpartum Visit	N	S	C,PP	1 = Yes 2 = No Blank or 9 = Unknown
22	1	128	Medicaid—Prenatal Visit	N	S	C, P	1 = Yes 2 = No Blank or 9 = Unknown
23	1	129	Medicaid—Postpartum Visit	N	S	C,PP	1 = Yes 2 = No Blank or 9 = Unknown
24	1	130	TANF—Prenatal Visit	N	S	C,P	1 = Yes 2 = No Blank or 9 = Unknown
25	1	131	TANF—Postpartum Visit	N	S	C,PP	1 = Yes 2 = No Blank or 9 = Unknown

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<sup>3</sup> Report this field on the specified PNSS record types. C = Complete records; P = Prenatal only records; PP = Postpartum only records.

Field Seq	Size	Columns or Positions	Field Name	Type <sup>1</sup>	Field Priority <sup>2</sup>	Record Types <sup>3</sup>	Notes
<b>MATERNAL HEALTH INDICATORS</b>							
26	8	132–139	Date of Last Menstrual Period (LMP) <i>or</i>	N	C <sub>4</sub>	C,P,PP	Actual date: MMDDYYYY
27	8	140–147	EDD (Expected Date of Delivery)	N	C <sub>4</sub>	C,P,PP	Actual date: MMDDYYYY
28	3	148–150	Height of Woman— English <i>or</i>	N	C	C,P,PP	Inches to nearest 1/8 inch Blanks or 999 = Unknown
29	4	151–154	Height of Woman—Metric	N	C	C,P,PP	Centimeters to nearest tenth Blanks or 9999 = Unknown
30	3	155–157	Pre-pregnancy Weight Estimate	N	C	C,P,PP	Weight to nearest whole pound Blanks or 999 = Unknown
31	4	158–161	Woman's Weight English—Prenatal Visit <i>or</i>	N	C	C,P	Weight to nearest ¼ pound Blanks or 9999=Unknown
32	4	162–165	Woman's Weight Metric—Prenatal Visit	N	C	C,P	Kilograms to nearest tenth Blanks or 9999 = Unknown
33	4	166–169	Woman's Weight English—Postpartum Visit <i>or</i>	N	C	C,PP	Weight to nearest ¼ pound Blanks or 9999 = Unknown
34	4	170–173	Woman's Weight Metric—Postpartum Visit	N	C	C,PP	Kilograms to nearest tenth Blanks or 9999 = Unknown
35	1	174	Positive or Negative (Pos or Neg) Weight Gain	A/N	C	C,PP	+ = Positive (gained weight) - = Negative (lost weight) Blank or 9 = Unknown
36	2	175–176	Total Weight Gain	N	C	C,PP	Whole pounds gained or lost 00–97 98 = 98 or more Blanks or 99 = Unknown

<sup>1</sup> A/N = Alphanumeric; N = Numeric.

<sup>2</sup> Cr = Critical field (record rejected if not reported); C = Core field; S = Supplemental field; CU = Contributor Use field.

<sup>3</sup> Report this field on the specified PNSS record types. C = Complete records; P = Prenatal only records; PP = Postpartum only records.

<sup>4</sup> Record rejected if data for fields 26/Date of LMP, 27/EDD, and 60/Infant's Date of Birth are all missing.

Field Seq	Size	Columns or Positions	Field Name	Type <sup>1</sup>	Field Priority <sup>2</sup>	Record Types <sup>3</sup>	Notes
<b>MATERNAL HEALTH INDICATORS (CONT.)</b>							
37	3	177–179	Hemoglobin—Prenatal Visit <i>or</i>	N	C	C,P	g/dL to nearest tenth Blanks or 999 = Unknown
38	3	180–182	Hematocrit—Prenatal Visit	N	C	C,P	Percent to nearest tenth Blanks or 999 = Unknown
39	8	183–190	Date of Hemoglobin/Hematocrit Measure—Prenatal Visit	N	S	C,P	Actual date: MMDDYYYY
40	3	191–193	Hemoglobin— Postpartum Visit <i>or</i>	N	C	C,PP	g/dL to nearest tenth Blanks or 999 = Unknown
41	3	194–196	Hematocrit—Postpartum Visit	N	C	C,PP	Percent to nearest tenth Blanks or 999 = Unknown
42	8	197–204	Date of Hemoglobin/Hematocrit Measure—Postpartum Visit	N	S	C,PP	Actual date: MMDDYYYY
43	2	205–206	Parity	N	C	C,P,PP	00 = None. 01–29 = Actual number Blanks or 99 = Unknown
44	6	207–212	Date Last Pregnancy Ended	N	C	C,P,PP	Actual date: MMYYYY
45	1	213	Gestational Diabetes— Postpartum Visit	N	S	C,PP	See Field Codes
46	1	214	Hypertension During Pregnancy—Postpartum Visit	N	S	C,PP	See Field Codes
<b>MATERNAL BEHAVIORAL INDICATORS</b>							
47	1	215	Medical Care Began	N	C	C,P,PP	1–7 = Month of pregnancy 8 = 8 <sup>th</sup> or 9 <sup>th</sup> month 0 = No medical care Blank or 9 = Unknown
48	8	216–223	Date Enrolled in WIC	N	C	C,P,PP	Actual date: MMDDYYYY

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<sup>3</sup> Report this field on the specified PNSS record types. C = Complete records; P = Prenatal only records; PP = Postpartum only records.

Field Seq	Size	Columns or Positions	Field Name	Type <sup>1</sup>	Field Priority <sup>2</sup>	Record Types <sup>3</sup>	Notes
<b>MATERNAL BEHAVIORAL INDICATORS (CONT.)</b>							
49	1	224	Multivitamin Consumption Prior to Pregnancy	N	S	C,P,PP	0 = < Once a week 1 = Times a week 8 = 8 or more times a week Blank or 9 = Unknown
50	1	225	Multivitamin Consumption During Pregnancy	N	S	C,P	1 = Yes 2 = No Blank or 9 = Unknown
<b>MATERNAL SMOKING AND DRINKING INDICATORS</b>							
51	2	226–227	Cigarettes/Day—3 Months Prior to Pregnancy	N	C	C,P,PP	00 = Did not smoke 01–96 = Actual number 97 = 97+ 98 = Smoked, but quantity unknown Blanks or 99 = Unknown or refused
52	2	228–229	Cigarettes/Day—Prenatal Visit	N	C	C,P	00 = Did not smoke 01–96 = Actual number 97 = 97+ 98 = Smokes, but quantity unknown Blanks or 99 = Unknown or refused
53	2	230–231	Cigarettes/Day—Last 3 Months of Pregnancy	N	C	C,PP	00 = Did not smoke 01–96 = Actual number 97 = 97+ 98 = Smoked, but quantity unknown Blanks or 99 = Unknown or refused
54	2	232–233	Cigarettes/Day— Postpartum Visit	N	S	C,PP	00 = Did not smoke 01–96 = Actual number 97 = 97+ 98 = Smokes, but quantity unknown Blanks or 99 = Unknown or refused
55	1	234	Household Smoking— Prenatal Visit	N	S	C,P	1 = Yes 2 = No Blank or 9 = Unknown

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<sup>3</sup> Report this field on the specified PNSS record types. C = Complete records; P = Prenatal only records; PP = Postpartum only records.

Field Seq	Size	Columns or Positions	Field Name	Type <sup>1</sup>	Field Priority <sup>2</sup>	Record Types <sup>3</sup>	Notes
<b>MATERNAL SMOKING AND DRINKING INDICATORS (CONT.)</b>							
56	1	235	Household Smoking— Postpartum Visit	N	S	C,PP	1 = Yes 2 = No Blank or 9 = Unknown
57	2	236–237	Drinks/Week—3 Months Prior to Pregnancy	N	C	C,P,PP	00 = Did not drink 01 = 1 drink/week or less 02–20 = Number of drinks/week 21 = 21 or more drinks/week 98 = Drank, but quantity unknown Blanks or 99 = Unknown or refused
58	2	238–239	Drinks/Week—Last 3 Months of Pregnancy	N	C	C,PP	00 = Did not drink 01 = 1 drink/week or less 02–20 = Number of drinks/week 21 = 21 or more drinks/week 98 = Drank, but quantity unknown Blanks or 99 = Unknown or refused
<b>INFANT DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS</b>							
59	60	240–299	Infant ID—Alphanumeric	A/N	C	C,PP	Consistently right or left justify; pad entries < 30 characters with blanks. Leave the last 30 positions blank. Encrypt full SSN and client name using CDC software.
60	8	300–307	Infant's Date of Birth	N	C <sup>4</sup>	C,PP	Actual date: MMDDYYYY
61	1	308	Number of Infants	N	C	C,PP	1–7 = Number of infants 8 = 8 or more infants Blank or 9 = Unknown
62	1	309	Born Alive or Dead	N	C	C,PP	1 = Born alive 2 = Born dead Blank or 9 = Unknown

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<sup>3</sup> Report this field on the specified PNSS record types. C = Complete records; P = Prenatal only records; PP = Postpartum only records.

<sup>4</sup> Record rejected if data for fields 26/Date of LMP, 27/EDD, and 60/Infant's Date of Birth are all missing.

Field Seq	Size	Columns or Positions	Field Name	Type <sup>1</sup>	Field Priority <sup>2</sup>	Record Types <sup>3</sup>	Notes
<b>INFANT HEALTH INDICATORS</b>							
63	4	310–313	Birthweight—English <i>or</i>	N	C C	C,PP	Pounds to nearest whole ounce 00–98 = Pounds 00–15 = Ounces Blanks or 9999 = Unknown
64	4	314–317	Birthweight—Metric	N	C	C,PP	Grams to nearest whole gram Blanks or 9999 = Unknown
65	1	318	Currently Breastfed	N	S	C,PP	1 = Yes, currently breastfed 2 = No, not currently breastfed 8 = Not applicable, stillborn Blank or 9 = Unknown
66	1	319	Ever Breastfed	N	S	C,PP	1 = Yes 2 = No Blank or 9 = Unknown or not applicable, infant is currently breastfed
<b>FUTURE EXPANSION</b>							
67	30	320–349	Future Expansion	A/N			Not used
<b>CONTRIBUTOR USE</b>							
68		350+	Contributor Use	A/N	CU		Reserved for contributor

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<sup>2</sup> Cr = Critical field (record rejected if not reported); C = Core field; S = Supplemental field; CU = Contributor Use field.

<sup>3</sup> Report this field on the specified PNSS record types. C = Complete records; P = Prenatal only records; PP = Postpartum only records.

# Extracting Prenatal and Postpartum Data For PNSS Records

There are three types of PNSS records:

- 1) Complete records, containing prenatal and postpartum data about a woman that are recorded both during and after her pregnancy. Postpartum data includes information about the woman's newborn infant.
- 2) Prenatal Only records, containing only prenatal data about a woman.
- 3) Postpartum Only records, containing only postpartum data about a woman and information about her newborn infant.

The type of PNSS record is designated in field 6 on the PNSS record, Completion Code.

Completion Code 1, A or B = Complete Records  
Completion Code 2-6 = Prenatal Only Records  
Completion Code 7-8 = Postpartum Only Records

PNSS contributors are expected to identify the prenatal visit record and the postpartum visit record (including information about the newborn infant) for each individual woman within their computer information system files, and then extract these data into one PNSS Complete record. When a woman gives birth to multiple infants, a record for the first born should be submitted to the PNSS only. PNSS no longer processes multiple infants born to a woman. Some contributors link to Birth Certificate files to obtain postpartum and infant information. Regardless of the source of the postpartum data, it is extracted 2-5 months after the infant's date of birth.

Contributors will be able to identify prenatal data only for some women who were enrolled in the public health program during pregnancy, but lost to follow-up later in pregnancy. These data are extracted into a PNSS Prenatal Only record 2-5 months after the woman's EDD (expected date of delivery).

And lastly, contributors will be able to identify postpartum data only (including data for the newborn infant) for some women who are initially enrolled in the public health program as postpartum women; these data are extracted into a PNSS Postpartum Only record also 2-5 months after the infant's date of birth.

When data are extracted is not only dependent on the actual or expected infant's date of birth, but also on the timing of updates to the contributor's computer information system. The PNSS file submission schedule is also a factor, and is outlined below and described in greater detail in the PNSS User's Guide chapter on file submission. PNSS transaction files, comprised of records for a specific time period, should be submitted to CDC based on the actual or expected infant's date of birth. Files are submitted quarterly, however records that are linked to Birth Certificate files may be submitted annually.

## Quarterly Submission

### Actual or Expected Infant's Month of Birth

January-March  
April-June  
July-September  
October-December

### Record to CDC by:

September 1  
December 1  
March 1 of the following year  
June 1 of the following year

## Annual Submission (Vital Record Birth Certificate Linkage)

### Actual or Expected Infant's Month of Birth

January-December

### Record to CDC by:

September 1

Quarterly files are due to CDC 2–5 months after the end of the quarterly period, to permit time for postpartum data to be collected for women who gave birth during the quarterly period.

The acceptable codes for PNSS field 6, Completion Code, shown below, are also described in the PNSS User’s Guide chapter on field definitions, codes and edits:

<b>Complete Record</b>			
Prenatal	1	=	Complete record (both prenatal and postpartum visits reported)
and Postpartum Info	A	=	Complete record (prenatal visit reported only with information obtained from infant record)
	B	=	Complete record (prenatal visit information linked to birth certificate file)
<hr/>			
	2	=	Moved from the area
Prenatal Info	3	=	No longer eligible for program benefits at postpartum visit
	4	=	Miscarriage, still birth, or infant death (do not assign this code if postpartum information is also reported)
Only	5	=	Other loss to follow-up
	6	=	Lost to follow-up, unknown cause
<hr/>			
Postpartum Info Only	7	=	Entered program after delivery
	8	=	No prenatal visit data for other reason
Blank or	9	=	Unknown

Note that it is acceptable, but not preferable, to label a PNSS record as a Complete record (code A or B) when only prenatal visit data and infant data (at minimum, Infant’s Date of Birth and Birthweight) can be identified.

PNSS records can therefore be generated under five different conditions:

**Complete Records**

- 1) The completion code is '1' if the prenatal visit record is already on the computer information system file when the postpartum visit record hits the computer information system, 2–5 months after the woman’s delivery date. The extract program should populate all fields of the PNSS record with appropriate data from both the prenatal and postpartum records. In some cases, the infant’s record may also need to be referenced if not all PNSS fields related to the infant are present on the postpartum record. \*

\* Infant ID, Infant’s Date of Birth, Number of Infants, Born Alive or Dead, Birthweight (English or Metric), Currently Breastfed, Ever Breastfed.

- 2) The completion code is 'A' if the prenatal visit record is on the computer information system file when the extract program is executed and the computer run date is 2–5 months past the EDD and no postpartum visit record has hit the system yet, and you are assured that you will never receive a postpartum visit record. If an infant record that represents the outcome of this pregnancy can be identified, populate all prenatal fields of the PNSS record with appropriate data from the computer information system prenatal record and infant fields from the infant record.
- 3) The completion code is 'B' if the prenatal record is linked to the state Birth Certificate file record that represents the outcome of this pregnancy. Populate all prenatal fields of the PNSS record with appropriate data from the computer information system prenatal record and infant fields from the birth certificate record (at a minimum, infant's date of birth and birthweight).

#### **Prenatal Only Records**

- 4) The completion code is '2', '3', '4', '5', or '6' (see description of completion code values on prior page) if a prenatal visit record for a specific woman is found 2–5 months after her EDD, but no postpartum visit record has hit the system, and the prenatal record can not be linked to an infant record or birth certificate file. Populate all prenatal fields of the PNSS record with appropriate data from the computer information system prenatal record and leave infant and postpartum fields blank.

#### **Postpartum Only Records**

- 5) The completion code is '7' or '8' (see description of completion code values on prior page) if the postpartum visit record hits the contributor's computer information system 2–5 months after the infant's date of birth, but no prenatal visit record for the specific woman for this pregnancy is on the system file. The extract program should populate all fields of the PNSS transaction record with appropriate data from the computer information system postpartum record.